

REMARKS

Claims 1-40 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 36-40 are added. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

In reply to the February 28, 2007, Election of Species Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects Species B, drawn to a hologram multiplexing recording method and apparatus using a spatial multiplexing scheme, with traverse.

Claims 10-18, 29, 31-35 and 39 are readable on the elected species. Claims 36 and 37 are generic to all species.

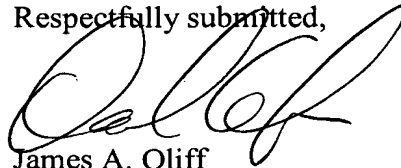
It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Additionally, it is respectfully submitted that search and examination of these closely-related species would not present an undue burden. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:CJW/tbm

Attachment:
Amendment Transmittal

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